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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

MIHARA, Toshiyuki et al

Group Art Unit: 1753

Serial No.: 10/593,644

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 21, 2006

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 4916

For: THERMOELECTRIC CONVERSION ELEMENT AND  
THERMOELECTRIC CONVERSION MODULE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 14, 2006

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-

1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: PTO1449, 1 Reference



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
CITATION  
PTO-1449**

Atty. Docket No. 060718 Serial No. 10/593,644

Applicant(s): MIHARA, Toshiyuki et al Confirmation No. 4916

Filing Date: September 21, 2006 Group Art Unit: 1753

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Sub class	Filing Date (If appropriate)
	AA					
	AB					

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
	AC			
	AD			
	AE			
	AF			
	AG			
	AH			
	AI			
	AJ			
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	AR			
	AS			

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

krs	AT	Funahashi et al; "An Oxide Single Crystal with High Thermoelectric Performance in Air;" Jpn J Appl. Phys. Vol. 39 (2000) pp L1127-29.
Examiner	/Kourtney Salzman/	Date Considered January 3, 2008



## List of publications

/ks/

	English language documents		First cited in foreign application Yes/No/-* Check after >3 months from filing/national entry
	U.S. patent	: patentee/number/issue date	
	Foreign patent	: country/number/publication date	
	Publication	: author/place/title/page/publication date	
(a)	R. Funahashi et.al., Jpn. J. Appl. Phys. 39, L1127 (2000)		—
(b)			—
(c)			—

	Non-English language documents		English translation of Office Action Yes/No	Concise statement Yes/No	English translation Yes/No Partial	English abstract Yes/No	First cited in foreign application Yes/No/-* Check after >3 months from filing/ national entry
	Foreign patent	: country/number/publication date					
	Publication	: author/place/title/page/publication date					
(1)							
(2)							
(3)							
(4)							
(5)							
(6)							

- Please note that publications \_\_\_\_\_ were cited in the International Search Report mailed on \_\_\_\_\_ during the international phase of the instant PCT application.
- ◆ Please note that publication (a) is document cited in the specification of the above-identified application.
- Please note that publications \_\_\_\_\_ are those which the applicants are aware of.
- Please note that publications \_\_\_\_\_ were cited in the European Search Report mailed on \_\_\_\_\_ in connection with the corresponding EP application.